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ATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tomokazu HARANO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2833

Appln. No. : 10/597,637

(National Stage of PCT/JP2005/023138)

Examiner: not yet assigned

I. A. Filed

: December 16, 2005

Confirmation No.: 4284

For

: OPTICAL AND ELECTRICAL COMPOUND CONNECTOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/023138, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report has been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

(1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-43934, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that the document

- is cited beginning at page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application;
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Utility Model Publication No. SHO 61-206276, together with an English language Translation of the claim; and
- (3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-42170, together with an English language Abstract the same, patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2005/0058389 A1.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the International claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of above-noted foreign documents, including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

The undersigned notes that the present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of an Action based upon the merits. Thus, no fee is required to be paid to ensure consideration of the documents cited therein. However, should this Information Disclosure Statement cross in the mail with an Action based

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upon the merits, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit No. 19-0089 the appropriate fee to ensure consideration of the cited materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Tomokazu HARANO et al.

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FORM PTO-1449						U.S. Department of Commerce Atty. Docket No. Patent and Trademark Office P30396 P30396 Application No. 10/597,637										
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